

Message Text

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12
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AMEMBASSY MADRID
USNRMSHPAE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAREUR
CINCUSAFE
CINCUSNAVEUR
USDOCOSOUTH
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S E C R E T USNATO 2738

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
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SECRET

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1. THE PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES AND OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN THE
MISSION'S END-1974 REVIEW (USNATO 619) ARE STILL WITH US.
WE CONTINUE TO FACE:

--THE ECONOMIC/ENERGY PROBLEM AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ALLIES,
ESPECIALLY THEIR ABILITIES TO SPEND FOR DEFENSE.

--A WEAKENED AND UNCERTAIN SITUATION ON THE SOUTHERN
FLANK, WITH FLUID SITUATIONS IN PORTUGAL AND ITALY, WITH
THE GREECE-TURKEY-CYPRUS PROBLEM, AND WITH THE RISKS
INHERENT IN THE SPANISH AND YUGOSLAV SUCCESSIONS.

--POSSIBLE NEW VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITH ITS
IMPACT ON WESTERN ECONOMIES AND SECURITY.

2. AMONG OUR OPPORTUNITIES ARE:

--POSSIBLE FUTURE MOVEMENT TOWARD MILITARY DETENTE
IN MBFR AFTER CSCE IS BEHIND US.

--THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CLOSER FRANCE/NATO RELATIONSHIP.

--A STRONGER, MORE SELF-CONFIDENT GERMAN ROLE IN
NATO BASED ON SCHMIDT'S LEADERSHIP AND A CLOSE HARMONY
IN U.S.-GERMAN VIEWS.

3. KEY DEFENSE GOALS CONTINUE TO BE:

--MAINTENANCE OF A STALWART AND CREDIBLE POSTURE
FOR BOTH DETERRENCE AND DEFENSE.

--IMPLEMENTATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE WHICH
MINISTERS OF DEFENSE WILL APPROVE IN MAY PROVIDING THE
LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT NATO NEEDS FOR ACHIEVING AND
MAINTAINING ADEQUATE FORCES AND CAPABILITIES.

--PURSUIT OF MEASURES TO PROVIDE GREATER FLEXIBILITY
IN THE USE OF ALLIED FORCES AND MORE AND BETTER COOPERATIVE
COMMON PROGRAMS THROUGH RATIONALIZATION AND STANDARDIZATION.

4. A CHANGE IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE--WHICH CARRIES BOTH
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POTENTIAL RISKS AND REWARDS-- HAS DEVELOPED SINCE OUR END-OF-OUR
REVIEW. AS A RESULT OF RECENT SETBACKS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND
THE VOLATILE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, ALLIED PUBLICS ARE
DISQUIETED BY APPARENTLY MOUNTING PROBLEMS FOR THE WEST AND
BY DOUBTS IN SOME QUARTERS ABOUT THE CONTINUING U.S. COMMIT-
MENT TO ITS ALLIES. THESE DOUBTS ARE LESS FREQUENTLY VOICED
AT THE EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP LEVEL, WHERE MANY HAVE EXPRESSED
RELIEF THAT THE U.S. WILL NOW BE ABLE TO FOCUS AGAIN ON
CENTRAL CONCERNS IN EUROPE. IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO REASSURE
OUR ALLIES THAT THIS IS INDEED THE CASE.

5. THE FORTHCOMING NATO "SUMMIT" PROVIDES AN IDEAL FORUM FOR
DEMONSTRATING ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY AND FOR REAFFIRMING THE

CONTINUED U.S. COMMITMENT TO ATLANTIC DEFENSE. THE SUMMIT ALSO WILL CONSTITUTE PUBLIC EVIDENCE THAT THE ALLIANCE CONTINUES TO BE A COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS AND VALUES.

6. SUSTAINING THE MOMENTUM ACHIEVED AT THE SUMMIT CAN BE NATO'S EXPANDING ROLE AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR DEBATE AND DECISION ON ISSUES AFFECTING THE VITAL INTERESTS OF A DEY GROUP OF POWERFUL NATIONS. THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS CAN, AND SHOULD, BE ENRICHED WITH STILL GREATER EMPHASIS ON HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION ABOUT EXTRA-ALLIANCE AFFIARS, AND CLOSER COORDINATION IN KEY AREAS SUCH AS EAST-WEST DETNETE GOALS. ATTENTION SHOULD ALSO BE PAID AS WELL TO WAYS OF IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT AMONG PUBLICS, PARLIAMENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE FOR NATO OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS.

7. WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO PLAY OUR PART IN SUPPORT OF U.S. OBJECTIVES. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, OBTAIN AN IMPORTANT RETURN FROM A SMALL OUTLAY IF MORE TRAVEL FUNDS WERE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE MISSION'S SENIOR STATE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO VISIT ALLIED CAPITALS AND THE DEPARTMENT, AND FOR U.S. AMBASSADORS IN NATO CAPITALS, THEIR DCMS AND POLITICAL COUNSELORS OTO VISIT NATO. TO THIS END, WE SUGGEST THAT THE NEXT DUROPEAN CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING BE HELD IN BRUSSELS AND THAT A MEETING OF POLITICAL COUNSELORS FROM NATO CAPITALS BE HELD IN THE AUTUMN.

8. AS TO STAFFING, WE BELIEVE THE IMPORTANT LIAISON BETWEEN USNATO'S STATE AND DEFENSE ELEMENTS WOULD BE STRENGTHENED BY
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THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER-- PERHAPS A JUNIOR OFFICER, AS RECENTLY SUGGESTED BY THE INSPECTORS. IN THE DEFENSE SPHERE, USNATO'S ARMAMENTS DIVISION IS CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESSING FOR THE STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY OF NATO EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES. THIS DIVISION HAS REDUCED FROM FIVE OFFICERS TO THREE IN THE LAST YEAR INEXPECTATION OF A SMALLER WORKLOAD. BUT THIS IS AN AREA WHERE WE ARE LAUNCHING NEW PROGRAMS AND NEED ADDITIONAL MANPOWER. I BELIEVE THAT AN INCREASE OF ONE OFFICER AT THE LIEUTENANT COLONEL LEVEL (BACK TO A TOTAL OF FOUR OFFICERS) IN THE ARMAMENTS DIVISION WOULD PAY REAL DIVIDENDS.
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